

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 SEOUL 03035 141001Z  
ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00  
SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03  
NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 IO-13 OMB-01  
SY-05 CU-02 DHA-02 /072 W  
-----141004Z 067708 /10

O R 140917Z APR 77  
FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3260  
INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO  
CINCPAC HI  
AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

C O N F I D E N T I A L SEOUL 3035

BANGKOK FOR CODEL

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

EO 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PINT KS  
SUBJ: KCIA DETAINS SIGNERS OF CHARTER AND ROKG CHARGES ONE  
SEMINARY STUDENT

REF: (A) SEOUL 2357 240804Z MAR 77, B. SEOUL 2867 080833Z APR 77

SUMMARY: AFTER DEPARTURE OF CODEL WOLFF, ROKG HAS PICKED UP  
TWO PERHAPS THREE GROUPS OF DISSIDENTS. END SUMMARY.

1. ON APRIL 14, KIM KWAN-SOK, SECRETARY GENERAL, NATIONAL  
COUNCIL OF CHURCHES IN KOREA (KNCC), TOLD EMBOFF THAT  
KOREAN CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY (KCIA) ON APRIL 13-14  
HAD PICKED UP AT LEAST FOUR SIGNATORIES OF "CHARTER FOR  
DEMOCRACY AND NATIONAL SALVATION" FIRST ISSUED MARCH 22  
(REFTEL A). HE PROVIDED FOLLOWING INFORMATION ON THOSE  
DEATINED:

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REV: CHO CHI-SONG OF THE URGAN AND INDUSTRIAL MISSION,  
YONGDUNGPO; REF. PAK CHONG-YOL, SON OF PAK HYONG-GYU; MINISTER  
OF SEOUL CHEIL CHURCH YI CHIK-HYONG, DIRECTOR, HUMAN RIGHTS  
COMMITTEE (HRC), KNCC; MISS KIM KYONG-GI, ASSISTANT, HRC, KNCC.  
KIM COMMENTED: "WE RATHER EXPECTED THIS TO HAPPEN, AFTER THE  
DEPARTURE OF THE U.S. CONGRESSMEN."

2. REV. CHO NAM-GI, CHAIRMAN, HRC, KNCC, PROVIDED FOLLOWING ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: KCIA PICKED UP YI LAST NIGHT AND, HAVING OBTAINED KEY TO HRC OFFICE THROUGH HIM, CAME HERE AND WENT THROUGH EVERYTHING. THEY CONFISCATED A COPY OF THE CHARTER, WHICH APPROXIMATELY 300 PEOPLE HAVE SIGNED SINCE MARCH 22. THEY GOT ONLY A PART OF THE WHOLE, AS THE CATHOLICS ARE ALSO CIRCULATING THE CHARTER, WHICH HAS BEEN SIGNED BY PERHAPS 500 IN ALL. CHO ADDED, "IT SEEMS TO BE THE GOVERNMENT'S STRATEGY TO DETAIN ONLY THE LEADERS IN SUCH ACTIVITIES, TO REDUCE THE NUMBERS INVOLVED. I EXPECT THESE ARRESTS TO CONTINUE UNDER THE PRESENT REGIME."

3. SG KIM ADDED INFORMATION THAT, IN AFTERMATH OF HAN'GUK THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY DEMONSTRATION OF APRIL 7 (REFTEL B), FIVE STUDENTS ARE BEING HELD, INCLUDING HIS SON. KIM WAS TOLD LAST NIGHT BY TELEPHONE THAT HIS SONE HAS BEEN CAHRGED UNDER THE ANTI-COMMUNIST LAW, BUT HE DOES NOT KNOW WHETHER THE OTHER FOUR HAVE BEEN CHARGED.

4. AUSTRALIAN EMBASSY INFORMS US THAT, IN ADDITION TO ABOVE, IT HAS UNCONFIRMED REPORT THAT THREE SNU (SEOUL NATIONAL UNIVERSITY) STUDENTS WHO TRIED UNSUCCESSFULLY ON APRIL 11 TO RALLY FELLOW STUDENTS HAVE BEEN PICKED UP IN PAST FEW DAYS. WE HAVE NO FURTHER INFORMATION ON THIS REPORT AS YET.

5. COMMENT: WHILE ROKG DELAY IN DETAINING THESE GROUPS MAY RELATE IN PART TO CODEL'S PRESENCE, BELIEVE IT ALSO CONFIDENTIAL

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REPRESENTS SOME SECOND THOUGHTS ON PART ROKG ABOUT RECENT INCREASE IN DEMONSTRATIVE ACTIVITIES BY OPPOSITION GROUPS. PERIOD IMMEDIATELY AHEAD WHICH INCLUDES APRIL 19 INDPENDENCE DAY IS PARTICULARLY SENSITIVE IN DOMESTIC POLITICAL TERMS AND ROKG APPEARS TO HAVE DESIGNED THESE ACTIONS AS WARNING AGAINST FURTHER SPREAD OF ANTI-GOVERNMENT ACTIVITY.  
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## Message Attributes

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**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
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